



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/579,792	05/26/2000	Roger Flores	PALM-2940.US.P	8499

7590 12/31/2002

Wagner Murabito & Hao LLP
Two North Market Street
Third Floor
San Jose, CA 95113

EXAMINER

CHUNG, DANIEL J

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2672

DATE MAILED: 12/31/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/579,792

Applicant(s)

FLORES ET AL.

Examiner

Daniel J Chung

Art Unit

2672

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 October 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____. 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-20 are presented for examination. This office action is in response to the amendment filed on 10-22-2002.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Muta (6,448,958) in view of Tateyama (5,515,077).

Regarding claim 1, Muta discloses that the claimed feature of in a computer system, a method of displaying information, comprising the steps of:

a) accessing a flag ["capability information"; 413] indicating a display mode of a display screen [211,220] of a computer system [210+240], wherein display mode [W/B, multi gradation, color] indicates a display capability of display screen; b) an application program [210,215] of computer system making a call ["input information", 309] to request a display attribute [i.e. color] for an object to be displayed on display screen [211,220]; c) in response to request, indexing a table [320] with flag and an object

identifier [315] to obtain a display attribute ["rendering instruction", 331], wherein object identifier identifies object, and wherein table is located externally of application program [210,215] and comprises a list of object identifiers and a plurality of display attribute lists, each of display attribute lists having a display attribute associated with each of object identifiers; d) application program displaying object on display screen [211,220] with display attribute [331], wherein display capability of display screen is transparent to application program. (See Abstract, Fig 3, Fig 4, Fig 6, Fig 11, col 2 line 26-47, col 13 line 17-45)

Muta does not specifically disclose that "a flag indicating a display mode of a display screen". However, using of a flag is well-known in the art to represent a information as a marker of some type used by a computer in processing or interpreting information. (See "Microsoft Computer Dictionary", third edition) Therefore, this would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to use flag into the teaching of Muta, as using of flag is advantageously desirable in Muta's system for effectively indicating "capability information."

Also, Muta does not explicitly disclose that indexing a table, which comprises a list of object identifiers and an associated display attribute lists. However, Tateyama discloses that assigning [table] color information values [display attribute] in each different objects [identified object] based on display mode [monochrome or color mode]. (See Fig 17, col 7 line 65-col 8 line 7) It would have been obvious to one skilled in the

art to include "indexing a table" for performing above Tateyama's system into the teaching of Muta, in order to render optimized image upon the display device effectively, as such improvement is also advantageously desirable in the teaching of Muta.

Regarding claim 2, Muta discloses that plurality of display attribute lists comprise a first and a second, and wherein:

First display attribute list has all of its associated display attributes being color ["color image"]; Second display attribute list has all of its associated display attributes being monochrome ["2 gradations W/B"]. (See col 9 line 8-15)

Regarding claim 3, Muta discloses that plurality of display attribute lists comprise a third, and where third display attribute list has all of its associated display attributes being a gray scale value ["multi gradations W/B"]. (See Fig 11)

Regarding claim 4, Muta discloses that display attribute lists has all of its associated display attributes as being colors which are substantially different from each other, such that debugging application program is facilitated. (See Fig 11)

Regarding claim 5, Muta discloses that the step of application program [210] changing at least one of the display attributes in at least one of display attribute lists. (See Fig 3, Fig 11)

Regarding claim 6, Muta discloses that the step of application program causing changes to the display attributes to remain in effect when the next application program runs. (See Fig 3, Fig 11)

Regarding claim 7, Muta discloses that the step of each time the computer system starts up, assigning a random color to each undefined color [default], such that if the application program changes one of display attributes to one of undefined colors, then the display attribute of object displayed on display screen is likely to be different each time the computer system starts up. (See Fig 3, Fig 11)

Regarding claim 8, Muta discloses that the step of a user of computer system changing display mode. (See Abstract line 1-9, col 13 line 26-32)

Regarding claim 9, Muta discloses that color table resides in an operating system of computer system. (See Fig 3, Fig 11)

Regarding claim 10, Claim 10 is the corresponding computer system of claim 1. Thus, the rejection to claim 1 hereinabove is also applicable to claim 10.

Regarding claims 11-12, Muta disclose that computer system is a portable/palm sized computer system. (See Abstract line 3)

Regarding claims 13-20, claims 13-20 are similar in scope to the claims 1-18, and thus the rejections to claims 1-18 hereinabove are also applicable to claims 13-20.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel J. Chung whose telephone number is (703) 306-3419. He can normally be reached Monday-Thursday and alternate Fridays from 7:30am- 5:00pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael, Razavi, can be reached at (703) 305-4713.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

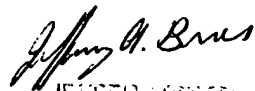
Art Unit: 2672

(703) 872-9314 (for Technology Center 2600 only)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

djc
December 17, 2002


JEFFERY BRIEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER